

**REMARKS**

The present communication is responsive to the Office Action mailed December 17, 2010 (hereinafter "Office Action"), rejecting all of the claims pending in the application. Claims 1, 16 and 33 are amended. Claims 5, 12, 16, 33, 39, 41 and 43 are pending and rejected 35 U.S.C. §103(a). In light of the amendments and the remarks to follow, reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. A Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 is submitted herewith.

In the Office Action, claims 5, 16, 39 and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,850,457 ("Gefvert") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,118,876 ("Ruzicka"), U.S. Patent No. 5,589,718 ("Lee"), U.S. Patent No. 5,470,253 to Siems et al. ("Siems"), U.S. Patent No. 3,824,524 ("Glover") and Applicant's Admitted Prior Art ("AAPA") of Figs. 12-14. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gefvert, Ruzicka, Lee (718), Siems, Glover, and AAPA, and further in view of and U.S. Patent No. 5,984,717 ("Lee"). Claim 33 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gefvert in view of AAPA and Glover. The Office Action also states that "[r]egarding claim 43, Glover discloses each of the plug connector structure and the socket connector structure has an asymmetric cross section such that one polarity thereof has a shape different from that of the other polarity.

In making the 103(a) rejection for claim 5, the Office Action states that FIG. 8B of Gefvert discloses the "output terminals corresponding to the left channels being arranged to the right of the output terminals corresponding to the right

channels when viewed from the front of the receiver." (Office Action, page 3). The Examiner acknowledges that Gefvert does not teach the output terminals corresponding to the positions of the speakers as viewed from the rear portion of the electronic apparatus. To cure the admitted deficiency of Gefvert, the Office Action then proceeds to state that "it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made" to modify Gefvert, "as taught by AAPA", and the modification results in "all of the audio signal output terminals corresponding to the left channels being arranged to the right of all of the audio signal output terminals corresponding to the right channels as viewed from the rear of the apparatus . . . ." (Office Action, page 3).

The amended claim 1 recites, in part:

... ..

an electronic apparatus having a back panel with at least five audio signal output terminals for a plurality of channels, said at least four audio signal output terminals including a front right audio signal output terminal for a front right channel, a rear right audio signal output terminal for a rear right channel, a front left audio signal output terminal for a front left channel, a rear left audio signal output terminal for a rear left channel and a center audio signal output terminal for a center channel, said back panel being located on a rear portion of the electronic apparatus;

... ..

in which, as viewed from the rear portion of the electronic apparatus, the front left audio signal output terminal is arranged to the right of both of the front right audio signal output terminal and the rear right audio signal output terminal on the back panel, the rear left audio signal output terminal is arranged to the right of both of the front right audio signal output terminal and the rear right audio signal output terminal on the back panel, and the center audio signal output terminal is arranged

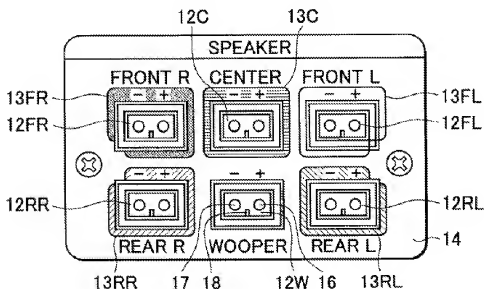
in between the front left audio signal output terminal and the rear left audio signal output terminal,

in which the front right audio signal output terminal is arranged on top of the rear right audio signal output terminal, and the front left audio signal output terminal is arranged on top of the rear left audio signal output terminal, or in which the front right audio signal output terminal is arranged below the rear right audio signal output terminal, and the front left audio signal output terminal is arranged below the rear left audio signal output terminal,

...  
(Emphasis added).

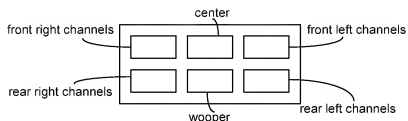
The other independent claims 16 and 33 are similarly amended. Support of the amendment can be found throughout the specification, for example, in FIG. 2 and paragraphs [0073]-[0079].

FIG. 2 of present application shows:



Claim 5 (viewed from the rear)

Thus, a simplified view of above FIG. 2 is illustrated as below.



Claim 5 (viewed from the rear)

In FIGS. 12-14 of the present application (which the Examiner referred to as "AAPA"), the illustrations show that, the front left audio signal output terminal, instead of being arranged to the right of the rear right audio signal output terminal, is notably arranged to the left of the rear right audio signal output terminal. The center audio signal output terminal, instead of being arranged between the front left and the rear left audio signal output terminals, is arranged at the right of both the front left and rear left output terminals.

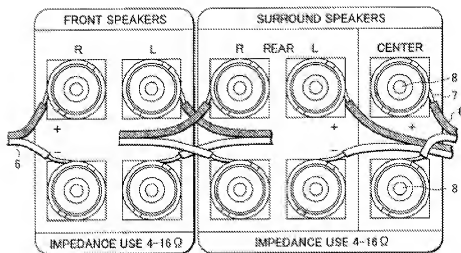


FIG. 12 (viewed from the rear)

A simplified view of above FIG. 12 is illustrated as below.

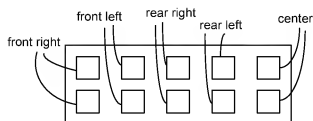
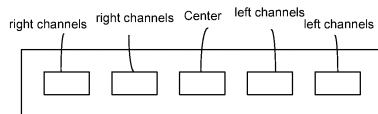


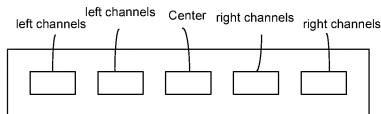
FIG. 12 (viewed from the rear)

The arrangement in Gefvert of FIG. 8B as applied (i.e., the output terminals corresponding to the left channels being arranged to the right of the output terminals corresponding to the right channels when viewed from the front of the receiver) is illustrated in the drawing below.



Gefvert (viewed from the front)

Thus, when viewed from the rear, Gefvert shows:



Gefvert (viewed from the rear)

Thus, it can be seen that Gefvert teaches the opposite to that recited in the present claim 5. Therefore, neither FIG. 8B of Gefvert nor FIGS. 12-14 of the present application discloses the arrangement of the left and right audio signal output terminals specifically recited in claim 5 of the present application.

In addition, while Figs. 12-14 of the present application teach that the center output terminal being arranged at the right of both the front left and the rear left output terminals, Gefvert teaches that the center output terminal being arranged between the left output terminals and the right output terminals where the right output terminals are arranged on the right of the center output terminal and the left output terminals are arranged on the left of the center output terminal. As such, Gefvert and Figs. 12-14 of the present application teach away from each other. Therefore, the combination of Gefvert and Figs. 12-14 of the present application cannot be used to reach the conclusion that, one skilled in the art, upon viewing Gefvert and Figs. 12-14, would have been suggested of the output terminal arrangement recited in claim 5.

For at least the reasons described above, it is respectfully submitted that the 103 rejection on claims 5, 16 and 33, as well as the rejection on the claims that depend from them, has been overcome and, therefore, should be withdrawn. Lee (717) is not used to cure the above deficiency of Gefvert and FIGS. 12-14. Therefore, it is also respectfully submitted that claim the 103 rejection on claim 12 is also overcome and should be withdrawn.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he/she telephone applicant's

attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: January 25, 2011

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